

Department of Justice

United States Attorney Joseph H. Hogsett Southern District of Indiana

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HOGSETT ANNOUNCES THAT BLOOMFIELD MAN ARRESTED ON CHILD PORNOGRAPHY CHARGES

PRESS RELEASE

INDIANAPOLIS - Joseph H. Hogsett, United States Attorney, announced today that Rodney L. Davis, 53, Bloomfield, Ind., was arrested and charged with distribution and possession of child pornography, following an investigation by the Indiana State Police.

The complaint alleges that Davis used internet chat software to send hundreds of child pornography images to an undercover police officer, and posted child pornography to an online social networking account. It is further alleged that a search warrant on Davis' residence in May 2011 showed him to be in possession of hundreds of child pornography images. "This type of crime perpetuates the victimization of our most innocent citizens – our children. Whenever and wherever we find this kind of conduct, we will pursue and prosecute it relentlessly," Hogsett said.

According to Assistant U.S. Attorney A. Brant Cook, who is prosecuting the case for the government, Davis faces a maximum of 20 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine. An initial hearing will be scheduled in Terre Haute, Ind., before a U.S. Magistrate Judge.

The charges against Davis are part of the ongoing fight to better protect children under Project Safe Childhood. Project Safe Childhood is a nationwide initiative to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice. Led by United States Attorneys' Offices and the Criminal Division's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS), Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as to identify and rescue victims of child exploitation. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov.

A complaint is only a charge and is not evidence of guilt. A defendant is presumed innocent and is entitled to a fair trial at which the government must prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

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